

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR



KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION 500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 437 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

MARK J. SALADINO
TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR

September 9, 2008

TELEPHONE (213) 974-2101

FACSIMILE (213) 626-1812

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

TRANSFER OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TAX OVERPAYMENTS TO THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT:

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has the authority to transfer to the County's General Fund any property tax overpayments for which refunds are permissible and for which a claim for refund has not been filed timely. Authorization is being requested for the Treasurer and Tax Collector to transfer unclaimed secured property tax overpayments to the County's General Fund in Fiscal Year 2007-08.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Treasurer and Tax Collector to transfer to the County's General Fund a total of \$7.71 million, for Fiscal Years 1996-1997 and 2002-2003, unclaimed secured property tax overpayments, to be recognized as revenue in Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

This letter requests Board approval to transfer unclaimed property tax overpayments to the County's General Fund.

Unclaimed Property Tax Overpayments

Revenue and Taxation Code Section 5102 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to transfer to the County's General Fund any property tax overpayments for which refunds are permissible and for which a claim for refund has not been filed within four (4) years of payment.

Honorable Board of Supervisors September 9, 2008 Page 2

When overpayments or double payments occur, the Treasurer and Tax Collector attempts to identify the person making the payment and refund them accordingly. If the Treasurer and Tax Collector is unable to identify the person making the payment, a notification is sent to the assessee of record indicating that a claim for refund can be filed with the Treasurer and Tax Collector.

Through these efforts, the Treasurer and Tax Collector was able to successfully refund approximately seventy percent (70%) of all the overpayments or double payments received in these Fiscal Years.

All unclaimed funds are maintained for a minimum of four (4) years, during which time claims for refunds are received, validated, and processed. These unclaimed funds totaling \$7.71 represent less than one-tenth of one percent of all tax payments received in these fiscal years.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action supports the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This request provides for the transfer of \$7.71 million to the County's General Fund, for which an accrual has been established in order to recognize these revenues in Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

MARK & SALADINO

Treasurer and Tax Collector

MJS:HR:jab

c: Auditor-Controller

County Counsel

Chief Executive Office